

Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph 20 of the published application as follows:

[0020] The duct 1 is connected to fan means 6 for generating a stream of air that is channeled ~~channelled~~ into the duct 1 and capable of carrying the fibre along the duct 1.

Please replace paragraph 23 of the published application as follows:

[0023] The latter are provided with a main carding drum rotating about a drum axis. The said drum axis is preferably more or less parallel to the said longitudinal duct direction X-X (FIGS. 11A-11C ~~FIG. 7~~).

Please replace paragraph 37 of the published application as follows:

[0037] The said deflection means 22, preferably located between the upstream portion 14 and the downstream portion 16 of the connector 10, over the through opening 20 where the fibre passes into the side duct 18 form an obstacle which at least partly intercepts ~~intersects~~ the stream of air and fibre, deflecting it from the normal direction of transport in such a way as to facilitate the entry of the said fibre into the side duct 18 of the connector 10.

Please replace paragraph 40 of the published application as follows:

[0040] Advantageously, the means 22 for deflecting the stream of air and fibre extend essentially all the way across the through opening 20 of the downstream portion 18, so that the said fibre is channeled ~~channelled~~ in an essentially uniform manner towards the carding machine 2.

Please replace paragraph 45 of the published application as follows:

[0045] Advantageously, the said symmetrical arrangement enables the stream of air and fibre to be channeling ~~channelling~~ more or less uniformly towards the carding machine.

Please replace paragraph 52 of the published application as follows:

[0052] The stream of air and fibre undergoes a deflection that facilitates the channeling ~~channelling~~ of the fibre towards the side duct and, at the same time, only slightly influences the stream of air and fibre directed towards the downstream portion 16. In other words, the said deflection means allow rapid re-establishment of the ideal conditions for feeding of the fibre to the next connector and deflection of the fibre towards the next carding machine.

Please replace paragraph 89 of the published application as follows:

[0089] The presence of the said deflection means facilitates the channeling ~~channelling~~ of the fibre towards the carding machine.

Please replace paragraph 93 of the published application as follows:

[0093] In accordance with another advantageous aspect, the said connector comprises lead-ins for the fibre for channeling ~~channelling~~ it towards the side duct without the formation, for example around a sharp join between the upstream portion and the side portion, of regions of stationary fibre which would have the effect of reducing the cross-sectional area through which fibre can pass and creating regions of non-uniform ~~nonuniform~~ flow.

Please replace paragraph 96 of the published application as follows:

[0096] It will be clear that a person skilled in the art will be able to make numerous modifications and alterations to the fibre feeding duct connector described above in order to fulfill ~~fulfil~~ any specific requirements that may arise.